



...A United Voice for the Santa Ana River Watershed

**OWOW STEERING COMMITTEE**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 28, 2022**

<b>Committee Members</b>	
<b><u>Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Representatives</u></b>	
Bruce Whitaker, Convener, Orange County Water District	Present
Brenda Dennstedt, Western Municipal Water District	Present
<b><u>County Supervisor Representatives</u></b>	
Katrina Foley, Orange County Board of Supervisors	Absent
Karen Spiegel, Riverside County Board of Supervisors	Present
Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors	Absent
<b><u>County Municipal Representatives</u></b>	
Deborah Robertson, Mayor, City of Rialto	Absent
Ted Hoffman, Councilmember, City of Norco	Present
Nicholas Dunlap, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Fullerton	Absent
<b><u>Business Community Representative</u></b>	
James Hessler, Director of West Coast Operations, Altman Plants	Present
<b><u>Environmental Community Representative</u></b>	
Garry W. Brown, President, Orange County Coastkeeper	Absent
<b><u>Regional Water Quality Control Board Representative</u></b>	
Joseph Kerr, Regional Water Quality Control Board	Absent
<b>Others Present</b>	
<b><u>SAWPA COMMISSIONERS:</u></b>	T. Milford Harrison, Kelly Rowe
<b><u>SAWPA STAFF:</u></b>	Jeff Mosher, Mark Norton, Ian Achimore, Rick Whetsel, Karen Williams, Edina Goode, Alison Lewis, Pete Vitt, Sara Villa, Haley Mullay
<b><u>OTHERS PRESENT:</u></b>	Andrew D. Turner, Lagerlof LLP

The OWOW Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m. by Bruce Whitaker, Convener, at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, CA 92503; however, a quorum was not present. Accordingly, the record will reflect that no actions were taken by the Committee. The Committee did receive informational reports as outlined below.



1. **CALL TO ORDER | PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pursuant to the provisions of AB 361, this meeting was conducted virtually.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments; there were no public comments received via email.

3. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 27, 2022**

Due to lack of quorum, Agenda Item No. 3 will be brought before the Committee for consideration at a future meeting.

4. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

A. **Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Status Update (SC#2022.4)**

Marie Jauregui provided a presentation, contained on pages 9-25 of the agenda packet, updating the Committee on Proposition 1 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM).

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, SAWPA received a request from the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (Valley District) to withdraw the Evans Lake Tributary Restoration and Camp Evans Wilderness Park project due to numerous challenges that surfaced since the grant award date. The request indicated that they were unable to obtain permanent mitigation value from the proposed restoration efforts. The \$2 million in grant funds originally awarded to Valley District will be rolled into Proposition 1 Round 2. This will require a formal amendment with the Department of Water Resources to update the budget and remove Valley District's project.

Committee member Hoffman asked if Valley District was able to meet any of their goals or if they retracted from the project completely. Joanna Gibson, from Valley District, stated that they were able to complete some components of the project that will benefit the area, but were unable to fulfill all the required benefits of the grant.

This item was for discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.A.

B. **Proposition 1 Round 2 Integrated Regional Water Management Call for Projects Update (SC#2022.5)**

Ian Achimore provided a presentation titled *Proposition 1 Round 2 IRWM Call for Projects Update*, contained in the agenda packet on pages 31-41. SAWPA received 24 projects through the OWOW Call for Projects. SAWPA staff is currently reviewing the projects with stakeholders through the participatory budgeting process. A final list of projects will be recommended to the OWOW Steering Committee on September 22, 2022, and then the SAWPA Commission Board on October 4, 2022. Mr. Achimore then provided a summary of the benefits claimed from the 24 projects. The final grant application to DWR is due by February 1, 2023.

Committee member Spiegel was pleased to see how the projects were evenly distributed through the Santa Ana River Watershed and recalled a previous round where that wasn't the case. Committee member Dennstedt informed her that it was intentional; a discussion between the five member agencies took place a few years ago where they agreed on how funding should be allocated evenly between the counties and disadvantage communities within the Watershed.



This item was for discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.B.

**5. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

Committee member Spiegel inquired regarding alternates for the Committee members given the many instances of absences and inability to meet a quorum. SAWPA's legal counsel will review the OWOW Steering Committee formation agreement to recommend an appropriate amendment that will allow for alternates.

Convener Whitaker requested an update on meeting in person and indicated a preference to hybrid meetings. Jeff Mosher stated that SAWPA staff is tracking the ability to maintain brown act meetings via zoom and will consider future hybrid meetings.

**6. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no requests for future agenda items.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting ended at 11:43 a.m.

**APPROVED:** September 22, 2022

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Bruce Whitaker, Convener

Attest:

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Sara Villa, Clerk of the Board